

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Richard Craig et al.) Before the Examiner
Filed Herewith) (not yet assigned)
Divisional of App. No. 09/771,064) Group Art Unit 3641
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE) December 16, 2003
DETECTION OF HYDROGENOUS)
MATERIALS)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22311

In response to the Office Action dated July 18, 2003 in Application Serial No. 09/771,064, Applicants timely filed an Amendment with a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE). Applicants then received an Office Communication dated December 1, 2003 stating that, while the Amendment was *bona fide*, it would not be entered unless presented in a divisional application. The present divisional application is being filed within the one month time period given. Therefore no extensions of time are believed to be due. Please charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include the payment of any issue fees.